

## **Cabinet members who did not attend the State of the Union Address (since 1984)**

<b>January 28, 2010</b>	Secretary of Housing and Urban Development Shaun Donovan
<b>February 24, 2009<sup>1</sup></b>	Attorney General Eric Holder
<b>January 28, 2008</b>	Secretary of the Interior Dirk Kempthorne
<b>January 23, 2007</b>	Attorney General Alberto Gonzales
<b>January 31, 2006</b>	Veterans Affairs Secretary Jim Nicholson
<b>February 2, 2005</b>	Secretary of Commerce Donald Evans
<b>January 20, 2004</b>	Secretary of Commerce Donald Evans
<b>January 28, 2003</b>	Attorney General John Ashcroft
<b>January 29, 2002</b>	Interior Secretary Gale Norton
<b>February 27, 2001<sup>2</sup></b>	Veterans Affairs Secretary Anthony Principi
<b>January 27, 2000</b>	Secretary of Energy Bill Richardson
<b>January 19, 1999</b>	Secretary of Housing and Urban Development Andrew W. Cuomo
<b>January 27, 1998</b>	Commerce Secretary Bill Daley
<b>February 4, 1997</b>	Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman
<b>January 30, 1996</b>	Health and Human Services Secretary Donna Shalala
<b>January 24, 1995</b>	Transportation Secretary Federico Pena
<b>January 25, 1994</b>	Agriculture Secretary Mike Epsy
<b>February 17, 1993<sup>3</sup></b>	Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt

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<sup>1</sup>This address before a joint session of Congress is not considered an official “State of the Union” message, although President Obama followed the State of the Union tradition of having a cabinet member stay home.

<sup>2</sup>This address before a joint session of Congress is not considered an official “State of the Union” message, although President Bush followed the State of the Union tradition of having a cabinet member stay home.

<sup>3</sup>This address before a joint session of Congress is not considered an official “State of the Union” message, although President Clinton followed the State of the Union tradition of having a

**January 28, 1992** Secretary of Agriculture Ed Madigan  
**January 29, 1991** Interior Secretary Manuel Lujan  
**January 31, 1990** Veterans Affairs Secretary Edward J. Derwinski  
**February 9, 1989<sup>4</sup>** Unknown  
**January 25, 1988** Interior Secretary Donald P. Hodel  
**January 27, 1987** Agriculture Secretary Richard Lyng  
**February 4, 1986** Secretary of Agriculture John Block  
**February 6, 1985** Commerce Secretary Malcolm Baldrige  
**January 25, 1984** Secretary of Housing and Urban Development Samuel R. Pierce Jr.

Senate Historical Office  
January 2010

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